



Islip, NY - Islip Town Councilwoman Trish Bergin Weichbrodt, Islip Town Councilman Steve Flotteron, and Assemblyman Phil Boyle (Bay Shore) were joined by members of the New York State Police Dept., AmVets Post 18 of East Islip, and the American Legion Four-S Post 1635 of East Islip

to symbolically rename the intersection of Adams Street East and Sherwood Drive in East Islip in memory of two childhood friends who died protecting our safety and freedom.

Thomas O'Neill of Sherwood Drive, a 33-year veteran of the New York State Police Department, suffered a fatal heart attack and passed away on July 6, 2005 shortly after a struggle with a disorderly suspect. His childhood best friend, John E. Quillen Jr. of Adams Street East, a Private First Class in the US Marine Corp., was killed in action on Dec. 3, 1967 just a week after his 19th birthday in Thua Thien, South Vietnam.

New memorial street signs were presented at the October 13, 2010 Town Board Meeting and were unveiled at the intersection of Adams Street East and Sherwood Drive in East Islip on Saturday, October 30, 2010.

BACKGROUND: Assemblyman Phil Boyle received a request from the sister of Thomas O'Neill to have the intersection of these two streets symbolically renamed after her brother and his childhood best friend. Since these roads are Town of Islip roads, Assemblyman Boyle reached out to Councilwoman Trish Bergin Weichbrodt to assist in this effort. Family members and

colleagues were on hand for the unveiling of the street signs.